

that purpose and not through a fee-for-service arrangement with the Office of Management and Budget or the Office of Personnel Management.

(C) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall implement multiple demonstration projects that apply new and innovative approaches to improve the processing of requests for security clearances. Each such project shall utilize proven commercial technologies and methods to the maximum extent possible.

(2) EXEMPTION FROM EXECUTIVE ORDERS.—No executive order that delegates responsibility for the issuance of security clearances to the personnel of the Office of Management and Budget shall apply to a demonstration project carried out under paragraph (1).

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to Congress a report on the status and progress of the demonstration projects carried out under paragraph (1).

(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subsection.

(D) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR EVALUATION.—The Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall carry out an evaluation of the process for issuing security clearances and develop a specific plan and schedule for replacing such process with an improved process.

(2) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to Congress a report on the evaluation carried out under paragraph (1) together with the plan developed under such paragraph.

**SA 3032.** Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 531 and insert the following:

**SEC. 531. SENSE OF SENATE ON FORGOING REVISIONS TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE RESERVE FORCES POLICY BOARD.**

It is the sense of the Senate that, in light of the wide range of views on the optimal structure of the Reserve Forces Policy Board among the Commission on the National Guard and Reserves, the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Department of Defense, and the Reserve community, and in light of the absence of full and complete hearings in Congress on that structure, the Act authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense should not include revisions to the structure of the Reserve Forces Policy Board.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. KERRY. I would like to inform Members that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship will hold a hearing entitled “Improving Internet Access to Help Small Business Compete in a Global Economy,” on Wednesday, September 26, 2007, at 10 a.m., in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO  
MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Monday, September 24, 2007, at 3 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The purpose of the hearing is to consider scientific assessments of the impacts of global climate change on wildfire activity in the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF TED POE TO BE  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
UNITED STATES TO THE 62ND  
SESSION OF THE GENERAL AS-  
SEMBLY OF THE UNITED NA-  
TIONS

NOMINATION OF WILLIAM  
DELAHUNT TO BE A REPRESENT-  
ATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES  
TO THE 62ND SESSION OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Executive Session and the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from the following nominations: TED POE to be a representative of the United States to the 62nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and WILLIAM DELAHUNT to be a representative of the United States to the 62nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

Ted Poe, of Texas, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-second Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

William Delahunt, of Massachusetts, to be a Representative of the United States of

America to the Sixty-second Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

CONDEMNING THE ASSASSINATION  
OF ANTOINE GHANEM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 328.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 328) condemning the assassination on September 19, 2007, of Antoine Ghanem, a member of the Parliament of Lebanon who opposed Syrian interference in Lebanon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, in the coming days there will be more funerals in Lebanon for fresh victims of despicable terror attacks. On Wednesday, September 19, 2007, Lebanese member of Parliament Antoine Ghanem and at least six others were killed in a massive car bomb attack in the suburbs of Beirut.

Tragically, this is an all-too-frequent occurrence for the people of Lebanon. The wave began with the February 14, 2005, assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and 21 others. On the 1-month anniversary of Prime Minister Hariri's assassination, something remarkable happened—hundreds of thousands of people gathered in Martyr's Square in downtown Beirut—spontaneously giving birth to the March 14 movement and the Cedar Revolution. Just 6 weeks after the March 14 movement began, the thousands of Syrian military forces that had occupied Lebanon for nearly three decades were out of the country.

But although the military occupation of Lebanon ended in 2005, Lebanon has remained under siege, as Wednesday's events remind us. Six Lebanese parliamentarians have now been killed in 2½ years. These six, and other prominent Lebanese figures who were also killed during the same period, shared one important attribute—they were outspoken critics of the Syrian domination of Lebanon.

Senator LUGAR, Senator SUNUNU and I are introducing a sense of the Senate resolution condemning the despicable assassination of Antoine Ghanem and urging that the international community continue its support for the government and people of Lebanon.

To the families of victims of Wednesday's attack and to the people of Lebanon, the Senate offers its deepest condolences for your losses. Wednesday's attack seeks to undermine the international tribunal set up earlier this